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RECENT RANGE EXPANSION BY THE BROWN-HEADED NUTHATCH IN TENNESEE

Richard L. Knight
Johnson City, Tennessee

The Brown-headed Nuthatch (*Sitta pusilla*) is a resident of open pine forests in the southeastern United States and on Grand Bahama Island. Its mainland range extends from southern Maryland and Delaware south through the coastal plain and piedmont to Florida and west across the Deep South to eastern Texas and southeastern Oklahoma (Dunn and Alderfer 2011).

The Brown-headed Nuthatch was first documented in Tennessee on 14 December 1968 in Hamilton County (Basham 1969). Breeding was first confirmed at the same site on 10 May 1977 (Haney 1981). By 1981 it had been found at more than a half-dozen sites in Hamilton County, plus an extralimital record from Van Buren County in 1974 (Haney 1981). Range expansion within the state was slow through the 1980s. The species was recorded in 14 blocks in four counties in southeastern Tennessee during the state's Breeding Bird Atlas project (McNair 1997) from 1986 through 1991. Further range expansion was predicted, but only into a few adjacent counties (Haney 1981, McNair 1997). By the end of the 1990s Brown-headed Nuthatch was reported from 12 counties, however, the period of greatest range expansion within Tennessee has occurred since 2000. Through spring 2017 the species has been found in 31 counties (Table 1), a third of all counties in the state and well beyond the earlier predictions. Most occurrences have been in the Ridge and Valley and Cumberland Plateau physiographic provinces. Despite this expansion they remain very localized in many counties, though the populations based in the Chattanooga and Knoxville areas have shown considerable growth and appear to be the sources of further expansion in that region.

In Tennessee Brown-headed Nuthatch prefers open stands of large loblolly pine (*Pinus taeda*) or shortleaf pine (*P. echinata*), but may also use Virginia pine (*P. virginiana*), often in human-modified settings (Haney 1981, McNair 1997). While some of the Brown-headed

Nuthatch expansion within Tennessee may have been gradual dispersal to pine stands that were relatively close, the species also may disperse considerable distances leapfrogging from one suitable patch to another. Renfrow (2003) suggests that these long-range movements may be in response to severe habitat loss or degradation, either natural or anthropogenic. Drastic habitat changes may also cause local extirpations. Range expansion does not necessarily mean that the overall population of a species is increasing, as some species have shown increases in some areas and declines in other parts of their range. Alderfer (2006) describes this species as fairly common, but declining throughout its range. The expansion and increase of Brown-headed Nuthatch within Tennessee may be in response to problems elsewhere.

NEIGHBORING POPULATIONS AND AVENUES OF EXPANSION

The appearance of the Brown-headed Nuthatch in southeast Tennessee in 1968 was likely an extension of their range from Georgia (Haney 1981, McNair 1997). These birds moved into the ridge and valley region of northwest Georgia beginning in the late 1950s and early 1960s (Dobbs 2010). Their presence in Hardin County, Tennessee since the late 1990s suggests expansion from Mississippi or Alabama. Haney (1981) cited reports from northeastern Mississippi in Benton, Alcorn, and Tishomingo counties. Recent field guides (e.g. Dunn and Alderfer 2011) show the range of Brown-headed Nuthatch extending up to a point where northwest Alabama and northeast Mississippi reach the Tennessee border. This area certainly would seem to be the source of the Hardin County birds, as well as the recent occurrences in Lawrence and Hardeman counties.

The species occurs locally in the mountain region of western North Carolina in the French Broad River basin of Buncombe County (Duyck and McNair 1990), however, the high mountains along the Tennessee and North Carolina border present a considerable barrier to further westward expansion.

The Brown-headed Nuthatch occurs in the southern piedmont of Virginia west to Patrick County and locally in the mountain region in Pulaski County (Rottenborn and Brinkley 2007). A single bird was found 28 December 2008 at Washington County Park, Virginia on the shoreline of South Holston Lake, just 0.4 mile (0.6 km) north of the Tennessee border (Lewis 2009). Individuals have occurred there sporadically into 2017, but are yet to be found at any sites on the Tennessee portion of the South Holston lakeshore. Both of the aforementioned Virginia counties are about 85 miles (135 km) distant from this site, while the nearest Tennessee records are from Greene County about 55 miles (90 km) distant. Therefore, the source of the birds on the Virginia portion of South Holston Lake is uncertain.

Kentucky's first record of Brown-headed Nuthatch occurred in fall 1999 with a single bird in Russell County (Palmer-Ball 2003). Another was found at Kentucky Dam Village State Resort Park in Marshall County in May 2008, and breeding was confirmed there in April and May 2013 (Renfrow 2013). The Kentucky nesting site is about 150 miles (240 km) north of the nearest known population in Tennessee at Pickwick Dam in Hardin County. As both sites are along the Tennessee River this suggests there could be other occupied sites in

between that are yet to be discovered, provided that suitable habitat exists.

The Brown-headed Nuthatch has certainly expanded its range in Tennessee well beyond that expected by Haney (1981) and McNair (1997). Additional expansion and range consolidation within the state would not be surprising.

Table 1. Chronological Appearance of the Brown-headed Nuthatch in Tennessee Counties.

County	Date	Location*	Reference
Hamilton	14 Dec 1968	near Collegedale	Basham 1969
Van Buren	29 Jul 1974	Fall Creek Falls SP	Williams 1974
Meigs	1 Jan 1985	Hiwassee CBC	Knight 1985
Bradley	spring 1985	Cleveland	Dubke & Dubke 1985
Cumberland	28 Feb 1990	Fairfield Glade	Knight 1990
Polk	18 Jun 1990	near Parksville	McNair 1997
Roane	Mar 1993	near Rockwood	Sharp 2004
Sequatchie	24 Jun 1993	-----	Knight 1993
Morgan	Jul 1995	Frozen Head	Roy et al. 2001
Marion	30 Dec 1995	Nickajack CBC	Hixon 1996
Loudon	summer 1996	Melton Hill Dam	Mann et al. 1997
Hardin	30 Dec 1996	Savannah CBC	Hixon 1997
Anderson	16 Dec 2000	Anderson Co Park	Roy et al. 2001
McMinn	27 May 2001	Athens	Knight 2001
Putnam	15 Dec 2001	Cookeville	Stedman & Walden 2003
Rhea	21 Jul 2002	near Dayton	Knight 2002
Knox	15 Dec 2002	Knoxville	Sharp 2004
Blount	20 Sep 2003	Louisville Point Park	Knight 2004
Fentress	18 Apr 2008	Big South Fork	Knight 2008
Coffee	22 Feb 2009	Tullahoma	Casteel 2009
Greene	18 Dec 2010	Kinser Park	Knight 2011
Warren	25 Feb 2012	McWhirter farm	Sloan & Palmer-Ball 2012
Campbell	25 Mar 2012	Cove Lake SP	Knight 2012
Bledsoe	19 Jun 2012	Myers Loop Road	eBird
White	15 Sep 2012	Bridgestone-Firestone	Hoff 2012
Franklin	29 Sep 2012	Sewanee	Knight 2012b
Lawrence	9 Jun 2013	Collinwood BBS	Somershoe 2013
Scott	10 Dec 2013	Huntsville	Knight 2014
Union	1 Feb 2014	Loyston Point	Knight 2014
Grainger	10 Jan 2015	German Creek Marina	eBird
Hardeman	13 Apr 2017	Lone Oaks Farm	Preston 2017

*Abbreviations: BBS - Breeding Bird Survey, CBC - Christmas Bird Count, SP - State Park.

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FIRST TENNESSEE RECORD OF CRESTED CARACARA

Mark A. Greene
Trenton, Tennessee

On 20 September 2017 at approximately 1100, I was birding at Booth Point, near the Linwood Bend Boat Ramp and Access Area along the Mississippi River in Dyer County. As I was scanning the sandbars and rock jetties out in the river with binoculars, I observed a distant perched bird facing me that I did not immediately recognize. The bird appeared to be a large raptor type bird that was dark from the belly down and a lighter, sandy color on the breast and neck. The top of the head appeared to be dark, the legs seemed to be long and light colored (Figure 1). I then viewed the bird with my spotting scope and identified the bird as a Crested Caracara (*Caracara cheriway*). I texted the photo to a few others and asked them to inform fellow birders about the bird.

Soon the Caracara was harassed and flushed by an immature Bald Eagle (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*). The eagle landed in the same spot where the caracara had been perched. In flight, I noted that the base of the tail was white, with a dark terminal band and that the bird had white patches on the outer primaries that were obvious as the rest of the wings were dark. The neck and throat were white, and I noted the legs were yellow and the skin around the face and bill was orange. The dark cap contrasted strongly with the white neck, cheeks, and throat. The Carcara flew to the west side of the river, which is in Pemiscot County, MO, then south past the I-155 Mississippi River Bridge and the Bunge grain facility. I lost the bird behind some trees as it continued south. I spoke with Michael Todd on the phone and he informed me that he was on his way to the area to search for the bird. I told him that I had to leave but would return later to search for the bird.

At 1315, Michael Todd relocated the bird on a sandbar in the Mississippi River at Heloise in Dyer County. With his scope he had clear observations of the bird and agreed it was a Crested Caracara. After a few minutes the bird was harassed and flushed by a group of American Crows (*Corvus brachyrhynchos*). Michael observed the bird take flight and fly low behind a rock jetty, where it disappeared. He noted the white base of the tail and white patches in the primaries when the bird was in flight.

I arrived about 1500 in the general area where Michael had last seen the bird. After searching for several minutes, I again located the bird further south, across the Mississippi River from Midway, Dyer County. The bird was still being chased and harassed by crows. It continued south, crossed the river back into Dyer County, Tennessee, where it flew over Island 21. At this point, I was able to get a quick photo as the bird banked above me (Figure 2). I continued to watch the bird as it flew back across the river again, to the southwest, into Mississippi County, AR where I lost it behind the trees on the far side of the river.

I notified birders in both Arkansas and Missouri to be on the lookout for this bird, but to my knowledge it was not seen again. This is the first record of this species in Tennessee and accepted as such by the Tennessee Bird Records committee (The Migrant 89:99-100). A search in eBird shows that there are records from throughout North America, from its normal range in Texas, Arizona, and Florida to several records along the upper East Coast

and north all the way into Ontario where there are multiple records (accessed https://ebird.org/species/crecar1 on 25 September 2017).

Figure 1. The original observation was of the Caracara sitting on a rock jetty near Booth Point, Mississippi River, Dyer County. The photo was digi-scoped with an iPhone 6 camera at a considerable distance through significant heat shimmer. *Photo credit: Mark Greene*

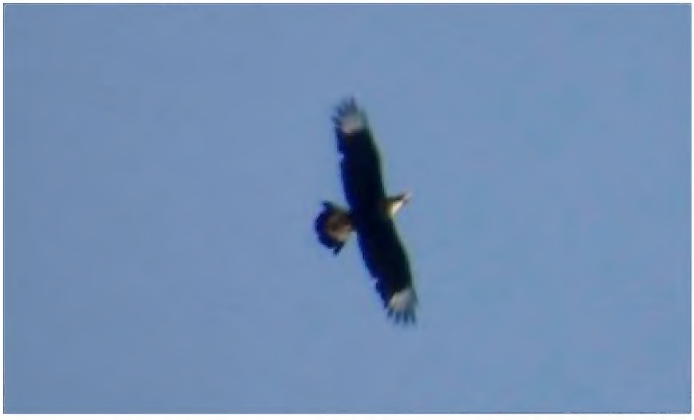

Figure 2. The Crested Caracara banked overhead at Island 21 in Dyer County, Tennessee. *Photo credit: Mark Greene*

FIRST TENNESSEE RECORD OF BROAD-BILLED HUMMINGBIRD

Cyndi Routledge
Clarksville, Tennessee

As the current moderator of the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency's Watchable Wildlife webpage, it is my responsibility to answer emails and check postings to the website. On 16 June 2017 I came upon one in which the subject line read "Broad-billed Hummingbird???". Naturally this caught my attention, though I felt it had to be a mistaken identification. To my delight and surprise, attached to the email were multiple photographs of an adult male Broad-billed Hummingbird (*Cyanthus latirostris).* Knowing this was a potential Tennessee state record I contacted the photographer and author, Amber Lewis of Arlington, Shelby County, Tennessee who responded immediately.

Amber reported that the Broad-billed Hummingbird arrived at her backyard feeder on 13 June 2017. She noticed that he looked different from the Ruby-throated Hummingbirds (*Archilochus colubris*) that were also at the feeder so she took photographs and reached out to the Watchable Wildlife site for positive identification (Figures 1). The bird was observed at her feeder on 13 June only and was last seen late evening by Amber, her mother, and her son.

With Amber's permission, I posted this sighting on eBird and submitted the record to the Tennessee Bird Records Committee. This committee approved this observation as the first state record for Broad-billed Hummingbird (The Migrant 89:99-100).

Figure 1. First Tennessee record of Broad-billed Hummingbird photographed on a feeder in Arlington, Shelby County, Tennessee. *Photo credit: Amber Lewis.*

FIRST STATE RECORD OF HOODED ORIOLE

David Gross
Culleoka, Tennessee

On 1 June 2016 I received a phone call from my neighbors regarding an orange bird they could not identify feeding at their hummingbird feeder. I suggested it could be a Rufous Hummingbird (*Selasphorus rufus*), but they assured me it was much too large to be a hummingbird and asked that I come help identify the bird.

Upon seeing the bird myself I knew it was an Oriole (*Icterus* spp.), but not one with which I was familiar. I took several photos but was unable to identify the bird from my field guides. I emailed the photos to my birding nephew in Seattle, who immediately identified it as a Hooded Oriole (*Icterus cucullatus*). He also said that to his knowledge there were no Tennessee records for the species and that I should report it (Figure 1).

The oriole remained at the feeder and fed regularly for three days. It was not seen again after 4 June and was not seen when away from the feeder. The feeder was located in Giles County adjacent to the Maury County line off Highway 245.

This record was accepted by the Tennessee Bird Records Committee as the first state observation of Hooded Warbler (The Migrant 88:118-119).

Editor's note: A Hooded Oriole was previously seen in Lincoln County, Tennessee on 8 July 2011, by Eden Powell (The Migrant 82:121). The sighting was submitted to the Tennessee Bird Records Committee but was not accepted as there were questions at the time regarding the origin of the bird (The Migrant 83:95).

Figure 1. This Hooded Oriole was photographed on a feeder in Giles County, Tennessee representing the first accepted Tennessee record of this species. *Photo credit: David Gross.*

ROUND TABLE NOTES

OSPREY NEST IN BRISTOL, SULLIVAN COUNTY, TENNESSEE - Ospreys (*Pandion haliaetus*) are rare but rapidly increasing breeding birds in Tennessee, though their status as such in the Ridge and Valley province of northeast Tennessee remains limited (Nicholson 1997).

An Osprey nesting attempt occurred in Bristol, central Sullivan County, Tennessee during the 2018 breeding season. The nest was located (at 36.535156, -82.107190) on top of a solitary light pole approximately 45 m high on the property of the Bristol, Tennessee water filtration plant. The nest was one km from, and overlooking, South Holston Lake. The nest was reported first by water plant employee Donnie Pugh on 3 April 2018. I helped monitor the nest thereafter.

Two birds were observed nest building during April and May 2018; one bird sat in the nest occasionally. Nesting activity abruptly ceased and was last noted on 28 May 2018. A camera-fitted aerial drone flown in June 2018 confirmed a lack of nest usage or egg remains.

Ospreys have recently nested on Long Island of the Holston River in Kingsport, western Sullivan County (pers. comm. with R. Knight, 2018). Coffey (2004) with L. McDaniel reported a putative (though inactive) Osprey nest on South Holston Lake in April 2004. This new record is the first with confirmed identity of the nest-builders and is significant for the species in the region. We will monitor the site in successive years.

I wish to thank the water filtration plant staff for reporting the birds to the author and allowing access to the site and to Brennan Dye for supplying drone footage of the nest. Thanks to Huxley Stout and Elliott Stout for research assistance.

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Jeremy B. Stout, The Nature Center at Steele Creek Park, Department of Parks and Recreation, Bristol, Tennessee.

LIMPKIN OBSERVED IN MARION COUNTY, TENNESSEE – Limpkins (*Aramus guarauna*) typically occur in south Florida in the United States with a global range that includes Central America and the Caribbean. There are sporadic observations of Limpkins as far north as Virginia and Maryland and west to Louisiana.

On 24 May 2017 Dwight Cooley, Peter Range, and I were approaching a landing site by boat at Tennessee River Mile 449.5 near the Tennessee River Gorge Trust Bird Lab, Chattanooga, Marion County, Tennessee when we observed a Limpkin perched on a limb overhanging the river. We first observed the bird from a distance of about 12 m. The sky was partly cloudy with diffuse sunlight to our backs and subdued lighting along the riverbank so we were provided good viewing conditions to note distinctive field marks.

We drifted to within about 6 m of the bird before it left its perch, slipped toward shore, walked slowly up the bank along a mist net lane and disappeared into vegetation. Hugh Bullock watched the bird for approximately 15 minutes following the original observation while he worked around the boat landing. The Limpkin was not seen again though we were in the area through 26 May 2019. We never heard the bird vocalize.

This is the third reported observation of Limpkin in Tennessee and the first for the eastern portion of the state. The Tennessee Bird Records Committee accepted this record unanimously (The Migrant 89:99-100).

Rick Huffines, Tennessee River Gorge Trust, Chattanooga, Tennessee

REPORT OF THE TENNESSEE BIRD RECORDS COMMITTEE, 2018

Ruben Stoll
Pleasantville, Tennessee

The Tennessee Bird Records Committee (TBRC) wishes to thank all who have taken the time to document and submit your rare bird records. Many of these reports are accompanied by photographic documentation which is especially valuable to the work of the committee. It is the job of the TBRC to maintain the Official List of the Birds of Tennessee and to ensure that sightings of rare species are documented accurately and adequately for posterity. This list, along with the by-laws of the committee and information for submitting documentation, may be viewed in the TBRC section of the TOS website. Current members of the committee are Phillip Casteel, Ron Hoff, Daniel Jacobson, David Kirschke (alternate) Chris Sloan, Ruben Stoll (secretary) and Terry Witt. The following is a report of the actions of the TBRC as of 30 September 2018.

Snowy Plover (*Charadrius nivosas*)

Written documentation and photo of one adult submitted by Mark Greene; Ben Parker Road, Lake County, 31 March 2016. Accepted 6-0.

Great-tailed Grackle (*Quiscalus mexicanus*)

Written documentation and photo of one male and one female submitted by Mark Greene; Linwood Bend boat ramp, Boothspoint, Dyer County, 27 April 2016. Accepted 6-0.

Parasitic Jaeger (*Stercorarius parasiticus*)

Written documentation and photos of one subadult submitted by Mark Greene; Gibson County Lake, Gibson County, 9 September 2016. Accepted 6-0.

Eurasian Wigeon (*Anus penelope*)

Written documentation and sketch of one male submitted by Ruben Stoll; Duck River Unit, TNWR, Humphreys County, 25 November 2016. Accepted 6-0.

Yellow Warbler (*Setophaga petechia*)

Written documentation and photos submitted by Stefan Woltmann at Austin Peay State University; Montgomery County, 6 January 2017. Accepted 6-0.

Limpkin (*Aramus guarauna*)

Written documentation of one adult submitted by Dwight Cooley; Tennessee River mile 449.5, Chattanooga, Marion County, 24 May 2017. Accepted 6-0.

Common Merganser (*Mergus merganser*)

Written documentation and photos of one adult female and up to eight chicks submitted

by Jeremy Lloyd, Logan Rosenberg and Emily Rosenberg on the Little River, Walland, Blount County, 29 May/ 9 June 2017. Accepted 6-0.

Broad-billed Hummingbird *(Cyananthus latirostris)*

Written documentation and photos of one adult submitted by Cyndi Routledge reporting for an anonymous homeowner in Arlington, Shelby County, 13 June, 2017. This is a first state record. Accepted 6-0.

Crested Caracara (*Caracara cheriway*)

Written documentation and photos of one bird submitted by Mark Greene from Booths Point, Dyer County, 20 September 2017. This is a first state record. Accepted 6-0.

Bronzed Cowbird (*Molothrus aeneus*)

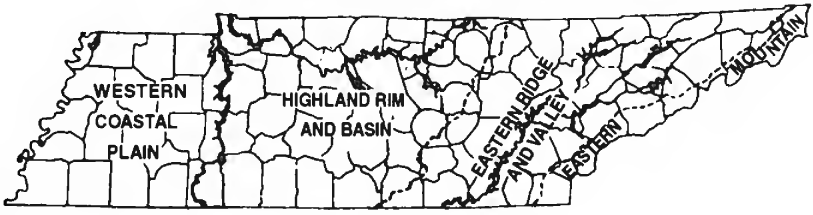
Written documentation and photos of one adult male submitted by Holly Writt, Bartlett, Shelby County, 30 November, 2017. This is a first state record. Accepted 6-0.

Great Kiskadee (*Pitangus sulphuratus*)

Written documentation and sketch of one adult submitted by Mark Greene at Hatchie NWR, Haywood County, 4 May 2018. This is a first state record. Accepted 6-0.

THE SPRING SEASON

Richard L. Knight, Editor



1 March - 31 May 2018

The season began with generally mild temperatures in early March; however, late March through April turned quite cool. Although there were several early migrants, the bulk of the April flight seemed to be stalled by the cool weather. May rebounded with temperatures well above normal. Rainfall was near normal to slightly above average overall.

A Black-bellied Whistling-Duck in Coffee County was one of few ever found in the mid-state, although this expanding species might appear anywhere. A Fulvous Whistling-Duck in Shelby County and a Cinnamon Teal in Davidson County were other notable waterfowl. Two broods of Common Merganser ducklings on the Little River and another brood on the Big South Fork River add to the small number of recent breeding records in East Tennessee. Common Gallinules and Eared Grebes appeared in three regions apiece. White-winged Doves were photographed in Wilson and Cumberland counties.

Shorebirds made a good showing this spring, particularly in the western two regions, highlighted by Marbled Godwits and Red Knots. An Iceland Gull appeared on Old Hickory Lake, and a Glaucous Gull lingered from February on Pickwick Lake. Single Neotropic Cormorants were found in Lake and Stewart counties, and an Anhinga in Hamilton County was the sixth for East Tennessee. Numbers of American White Pelicans continue to increase, particularly across the western half of the state, with numerous reports this spring including several lingering into May. For comparison, Robinson (An Annotated Checklist of the Birds of Tennessee, 1990) listed just four spring records of these huge birds in the state. Dark ibises occurred in all four regions, consisting of a pair of Glossy Ibises, four separate White-faced Ibises, and a possible hybrid of the two. A Swainson's Hawk at Fort Campbell was the state's twelfth.

Still rare away from Shelby County, a Western Kingbird in Montgomery County was notable while two Bell's Vireos were found in Dyer County and up to four occurred in Montgomery County. Red Crossbills in Henderson County and at Fort Campbell were a nice surprise. The recent trend of increasing numbers of Lark Sparrows in West and Middle Tennessee continued with reports from ten counties in these two regions. Harris's Sparrows lingered in Davidson and Knox counties, and Fish Crows and Common Ravens continue to expand their ranges in East Tennessee.

Standard Abbreviations

ad - adult
Co - County
Cr - Creek
ers - earliest reported sighting
fide – reported by
im - immature
L - Lake
lrs - latest reported sighting
max - maximum count
m.ob. - many observers
Mtn - Mountain
NWR - National Wildlife Refuge
R - River
SP - State Park
WMA - Wildlife Management Area
yg - young

WESTERN COASTAL PLAIN REGION - - While temperatures and rainfall in March were within normal ranges, April was an astounding 6.5°F cooler than usual, with rainfall more than 2 inches above normal. The month of May saw the reverse, averaging nearly 6°F above normal and with 2 inches less rain than normal.

The highlight of the season was the appearance of two Red Crossbills at a feeder in Henderson County, rare in West Tennessee. Shorebirds in Fayette County are hard to come by, so the 12 species reported there during the season were noteworthy. A Short-eared Owl at Shelby Farms lingered until mid-April, the second latest date for Shelby County. Also of note this spring were Fulvous Whistling-Duck, Marbled Godwit, Red Knot, Neotropic Cormorant, and White-faced Ibis.

Thanks to all those who reported their sightings, especially to those who submitted photographs or written details.

Waterfowl - Gallinule: **Black-bellied Whistling-Duck**: 7 Mar (12) Ensley (DDP), ers; 20 May (190) Ensley (MCT), max. **Fulvous Whistling-Duck**: 13-29 May (1-2) Ensley (John Walko, m.ob.). **Surf Scoter**: 29 Mar (1) Mississippi R, Dyer Co (RS, MAG). **Black Scoter**: 29 Mar (1) Mississippi R, Dyer Co (RS, MAG). **Horned Grebe**: 4 Mar (7) Garner L, Shelby Co (Gaynell Perry); 9 Mar (1) Ridgely, Lake Co (MAG). **Eared Grebe**: 2 Apr (1) Gibson Co L (MAG). **Black-billed Cuckoo**: 10 May (1) Fritz Landing, Lake Co (MAG); 20 May (1) Ensley (MCT); 23 May (1) Bogota WMA, Dyer Co (MAG). **Chimney Swift**: 27 Mar (3) Paris, Henry Co (RWh), ers. **Virginia Rail**: 25-30 Apr (1) Ensley (BFo, DDP, RH). **Sora**: 22 Apr (9) Ensley (RS, VS), max. **Common Gallinule**: 23 Apr (1) Walnut Log (MCT).

Shorebirds: **Black-necked Stilt**: 28 Mar (1) Hwy 194, Fayette Co (DDP) and (6) Ensley (RS), ers; 1 Apr (2) Hatchie NWR (Bob Ford); 22 Apr (1) Hwy 76, Haywood Co (DDP). **American Avocet**: 5 / 18 May (2 / 1) Ensley (MAG / BFo); 21 May (1) Gibson Co L (MAG). **Black-bellied Plover**: 6 / 11 May (6 / 1) Ensley (Virginia Reynolds / MCT); 12 May (5) Great River Rd (MAG); 16 May (4) Phillipy Pits (MAG); 18 May (1) Gibson Co L (MAG). **American Golden-Plover**: 17 Mar (14) Coffee Landing (RS, VS), ers; 19 Mar (8) Fayette Co (DDP), few Co records; 23 Mar (2500) Great River Rd (MAG); 10 Apr (1500) Dyer Co (MAG); 10 Apr (6500) Obion R bottoms, Obion Co (MAG), new high count in state; 23

Apr (1000) Van Works Rd, Lake Co (MAG); excellent showing. **Semipalmated Plover**: 12 May (134) Great River Rd (MAG), max. **Upland Sandpiper**: 10 Apr (1) Obion R bottoms, Obion Co (MAG); 29 Apr (1) Busseltown Unit, Tennessee NWR, Decatur Co (VS); 11 May (1) Ensley (MCT). **Marbled Godwit**: 23 Apr (3) Van Works Rd, Lake Co (MAG). **Ruddy Turnstone**: 16 May (1) Phillipy Pits (MAG); 17 May (1) Tiptonville Bar (MAG). **Red Knot**: 16 May (5) Tiptonville Bar (RS, VS). **Stilt Sandpiper**: 22 Mar (1) Fayette Co (DDP), ers; 11 May (42) Ensley (MCT), max. **Sanderling**: 17 May (4) Tiptonville Bar (MAG), rare in spring. **Dunlin**: 19 Mar (1) Fayette Co (DDP), ers; 16 May (239) Phillipy Pits (MAG, RS, VS), max. **Baird's Sandpiper**: 20 Mar (1) Robinson Bayou (MAG); 15-18 May (1) Ensley (BFo, DDP). **White-rumped Sandpiper**: 3-29 May (max 250 on 17 May) Ensley (RS, VS, MCT, m.ob.); 12 May (11) Lake Co (MAG); 12 May (2) Dyer Co (MAG); 16 May (21) Phillipy Pits (MAG, RS, VS); 22 May (4) Great River Rd, Lake Co (MAG). **Pectoral Sandpiper**: 5 Mar (9) Obion Co (MAG), ers; 20 Mar (2750) Robinson Bayou (MAG), max. **Semipalmated Sandpiper**: 19 Apr (1) Ensley (DDP), ers; 17 May (1250) Ensley (RS, VS), max. **Short-billed Dowitcher**: 19-25 Apr (8-32) Ensley (DDP). **Long-billed Dowitcher**: 17 Mar (2) Coffee Landing (RS, VS); 20 Mar (5) Robinson Bayou (MAG); 29 Mar (13) Joe Schenk Rd, Lake Co (MAG, RS); 4 Apr (13) Great River Rd (MAG); 18 Apr - 5 May (15-64) Ensley (MCT, DDP, RS, VS); 18 Apr (2) President's Island (MCT); 29 Apr (14) Lower Hatchie NWR, Lauderdale Co (DDP, m.ob.). **Solitary Sandpiper**: 17 Mar (1) Coffee Landing (RS, VS), ers. **Lesser Yellowlegs**: 22 Apr (1250) Ensley (RS, VS), max. **Willet**: 1 May (4) Reelfoot L, Lake Co (MCT); 1 / 16 May (1) Phillipy Pits (MCT / MAG); 3 May (8) Gibson Co L (MAG); 8 May (11) Britton Ford (RWh). **Greater Yellowlegs**: 20 Mar (500) Robinson Bayou (MAG), max. **Wilson's Phalarope**: 19 Apr - 11 May (1-8) Ensley (DDP, m.ob.); 16 / 30 May (1) Phillipy Pits (MAG); 16 May (1) Tiptonville Bar (RS, VS).

Gull - Falcon: **Lesser Black-backed Gull**: 10 Mar (2) Britton Ford (RS, VS, AT), lrs. **Herring Gull**: 21 May (1 ad) Gibson Co L (MAG), lrs. **Least Tern**: 10 May (2) Mississippi R, Lake Co (MAG), ers. **Black Tern**: 22 May (1) Mississippi R, Lake Co (MAG). **Common Tern**: 30 Apr / 3 May (1 / 2) Gibson Co L (MAG). **Red-throated Loon**: 10 Mar (1) Paris Landing SP, Henry Co (RS, VS, AT). **Common Loon**: 21 Mar (1) O'Neal L, Hatchie NWR (DDP); 10 Apr (4) Gibson Co L (MAG); unusual at these sites. **Neotropic Cormorant**: 23 Mar (1) Great River Rd, Lake Co (MAG). **Anhinga**: 1 Apr (3) Shelby Farms (BFo); 12 Apr (1) Macedonia Bottoms, Gibson Co (MAG); 20 Apr (1) Great River Rd (MAG); 23 Apr (1) Walnut Log (MCT); 4 May (1) Hatchie NWR (MAG); 17 May (1) Ensley (RS, VS). **American White Pelican**: 3 Apr (2) Gibson Co L (MAG); 4 Apr (31) Lake Co (MAG); 6 May (80) Britton Ford (SR, CR); 7 May (50) Dyer Co (Timothy Jones); 23 / 30 May (12 / 6) Phillipy Pits (MAG). **Least Bittern**: 3 May (1) Hatchie NWR (RS, VS). **American Bittern**: 2 Apr (1) Hatchie NWR (DDP); 19 Apr (2) Ghost River SNA, Fayette Co (Allan Trently); 20 Apr (1) Hooper Marsh, Dyer Co (MAG); 23 Apr (1) Walnut Log (MCT). **Snowy Egret**: 8 Apr (1) Dyer Co (MAG), ers. **Little Blue Heron**: 5 Apr (1) Fayette Co (RH), ers. **Cattle Egret**: 28 Mar (1) Ensley (RS), ers. **White-faced Ibis**: 30 May (1) Phillipy Pits (MAG). **Plegadis sp.**: 1-3 May (1) Ensley (Douglas Logan, photo, m.ob.), thought to be a White-faced x Glossy hybrid. **Mississippi Kite**: 18 May (3) Paris, Henry Co (RWh); 20 / 22 May (1)

Decatur Co (MAG / RWh). **Broad-winged Hawk**: 28 Mar (1) Fayette Co (RS), ers. **Short-eared Owl**: thru 12 Apr (1) Shelby Farms (Gail King), lrs. **Peregrine Falcon**: 27 Apr (1) Hales Point, Lauderdale Co (Timothy Jones); 5 May (1) Ensley (MAG); 5 May (1) Hatchie NWR (DDP, RH, Hal Mitchell).

Flycatcher - Sparrow: **Olive-sided Flycatcher**: 5 May (2) Hatchie NWR (DDP, RH, Hal Mitchell); 8 May (1) Fritz Landing, Lake Co (MAG); 10 / 17 May (1) Levee Rd, Lake Co (MAG). **Yellow-bellied Flycatcher**: 10 May (1) Fritz Landing, Lake Co (MAG). **Acadian Flycatcher**: 19 Apr (1) Overton Park, Shelby Co (Douglas Logan), ers. **Alder Flycatcher**: 18 May (2) T.O. Fuller SP (BFo). **Western Kingbird**: 2 May (1) Memphis (MM, BSc); 5 May (8) President's Island (MAG); 11 May (2) North Treatment Plant, Shelby Co (MCT); 18-29 May (2-3) Ensley (DDP, m.ob.). **Scissor-tailed Flycatcher**: 23 May (1) Coffee Landing (Allan Trently). **White-eyed Vireo**: 29 Mar (1) Lichterman Nature Center, Shelby Co (Mary Schmidt), ers. **Bell's Vireo**: 23 May (2) Bogota WMA, Dyer Co (MAG). **Yellow-throated Vireo**: 30 Mar (1) Reelfoot L, Obion Co (MAG), ers. **Warbling Vireo**: 4 Apr (1) Herb Parson's L, Fayette Co (RH), ers. **Red-eyed Vireo**: 9 Apr (2) Overton Park, Shelby Co (BFo), ers. **Fish Crow**: 10 Mar / 3 Apr (1) Britton Ford (RS, VS, AT / SR, CR); 17 Mar / 18 May (1 / 2) Paris, Henry Co (RWh); 25 Mar / 15 Apr / 6 May (1) Camden WMA, Benton (MCT / BSc / AT). **Blue-gray Gnatcatcher**: 24 Mar (1) McNairy Co (RS, VS) and (1) Shelby Farms (RH), ers. **Gray-cheeked Thrush**: 19 Apr (1) T.O. Fuller SP (BFo), ers. **Swainson's Thrush**: 11 Apr (1) Munford (DDP), ers. **Wood Thrush**: 6 Apr (1) Munford (DDP), ers. **Red Crossbill**: 30 May / 1 Jun (2 / 1, at feeder) Wildersville, Henderson Co (Dustin Crowell, photo). **Lark Sparrow**: 9 Apr (1) Dyer Co (MAG); 27 Apr thru season (1-2 at several sites) Gibson Co (MAG); 29 Apr (2) Shelby Farms (Jim Varner, photo); 17 May (1) Hwy 79W, Lake Co (MAG). **Henslow's Sparrow**: 9 Apr (1) Wolf R Greenway, Shelby Co (Jim Varner, photo). **LeConte's Sparrow**: 6 / 27 Mar (7 / 1) Shelby Farms (RH / BFo); 10 Mar (2) Britton Ford (RS, VS, AT); 17 Mar (7) Busseltown Unit, Tennessee NWR, Decatur Co (RS, VS); 5 May (1) Hatchie NWR (MAG, MCT).

Oriole - Dickcissel: **Orchard Oriole**: 14 Apr (1) Munford (DDP), ers. **Western Meadowlark**: 9 Mar (2) Dyer Co (MAG). **Golden-winged Warbler**: 19 Apr (1) T.O. Fuller SP (BFo); 30 Apr (2) Ghost River SNA, Fayette Co (DDP, RH); 5 May (1) Hatchie NWR (MAG, MCT). **Prothonotary Warbler**: 4 Apr (1) Herb Parson's L, Fayette Co (RH), ers. **Swainson's Warbler**: 18 Apr (1) Shelby Forest (MCT), ers. **Tennessee Warbler**: 4 Apr (1) Munford (DDP), ties early arrival date in state. **Mourning Warbler**: 11 May (1) Eagle L, Shelby Co (MCT); 15 May (1) Lauderdale Co (Timothy Jones); 21 May (1) Gibson Co L (MAG); 26 May (1) Wolf River WMA, Fayette Co (DDP). **Kentucky Warbler**: 13 Apr (1) Shelby Forest (BFo), ers. **Hooded Warbler**: 31 Mar (1) Shelby Forest (BFo), ers. **Northern Parula**: 21 Mar (1) Munford (DDP), ers. **Cape May Warbler**: 11 May (1) Shelby Forest (MCT). **Magnolia Warbler**: 18 Apr (1) Shelby Forest (MCT), ers. **Chestnut-sided Warbler**: 16 Apr (1) Munford (DDP), ers. **Yellow-throated Warbler**: 27 Mar (1) Shelby Farms (BFo), ers. **Black-throated Green Warbler**: 24 Mar (1) Shelby Farms (RH), ers. **Summer Tanager**: 11 Apr (1) Munford (DDP), ers. **Rose-breasted Grosbeak**: 20 Apr (1) Great River Rd

(MAG), ers. **Indigo Bunting**: 4 Apr (1) Munford (DDP), ers. **Painted Bunting**: 30 Apr - 29 May (1-3) Ensley (DDP, RH, m.ob.); 5 May (1) President's Island (MAG). **Dickcissel**: 19 Apr (2) Ensley (DDP), ers.

Locations: Britton Ford - Henry Co; Coffee Landing - Hardin Co; Ensley - Shelby Co; Great River Rd - Dyer Co (unless specified otherwise); Hatchie NWR - Haywood Co; Munford - Tipton Co; Phillipy Pits - Lake Co; President's Island - Shelby Co; Robinson Bayou - Lake Co; Shelby Farms - Shelby Co; Shelby Forest - Shelby Co; Tiptonville Bar - Lake Co; T.O. Fuller SP - Shelby Co; Walnut Log - Obion Co.

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HIGHLAND RIM AND BASIN REGION - - Weather in Middle Tennessee was quite variable this spring. Temperatures in March were near normal, but April was cool with temperatures averaging 3.7°F below normal, while May turned warm with temperatures 8°F above normal. Rainfall in March and April was above normal (+ 0.7 inches and + 1.6 inches, respectively), but May precipitation was normal.

Highlights this spring include Red Crossbills of Type 2 and Type 3, recordings of which were confirmed by a researcher at Cornell University. These apparently represent the first confirmed Type 3 to be documented in the state. Other highlights were Cinnamon Teal, Swainson's Hawk, Neotropic Cormorant, Glossy Ibis, White-winged Dove, Marbled Godwit, Glaucous and Iceland Gulls, Western Kingbird, Yellow-headed Blackbird, and a continuing Harris's Sparrow.

Waterfowl - Crane: **Black-bellied Whistling-Duck**: 18-24 May (1) Harpo Rd, Coffee Co (RSh, DSh, photo). **Snow Goose**: 28 Mar (1) Old Hickory L (PDC, CA), lrs. **Greater White-fronted Goose**: 11 Mar (3) Eagleville, Rutherford Co (CW); 16 Mar (1) Old Hickory L, Sumner Co (FF). **Tundra Swan**: 17 Apr (1) Cross Cr NWR (FF, SR, CR, photo, m.ob.). **Wood Duck**: 1 Apr (female, 10 yg) Lincoln Co (DSn), new early date for yg according to the Breeding Bird Atlas. **Cinnamon Teal**: 17-22 Mar (1 male) Bell's Bend, Davidson Co (MS, m.ob., photo). **Surf Scoter**: 5-28 Mar (1) Duck R Unit (RS, VS, AT). **White-winged Scoter**: thru 18 Mar (12-5) Old Hickory L, Sumner Co (VS, FF, m.ob.); 5-10 Mar (3) Duck R Unit (RS, VS, AT); 24-28 Mar (1) Pickwick L (RS, VS). **Black Scoter**: 5 Mar (1) Duck R Unit (AT). **Long-tailed Duck**: thru 24 Mar (1-2) Pickwick L (RS, VS); 28 Mar (1) Old Hickory L (PDC, CA). **Bufflehead**: thru 1 Jun (1-2 males) Pickwick L (m.ob.), lrs. **Red-breasted Merganser**: 18 Mar (12) Radnor L (JKS). **Red-necked Grebe**: late Feb thru 19 Apr (1) Old Hickory L, Sumner Co (m.ob.); 5 Mar (1) Duck R Unit (AT). **White-winged Dove**: 14 May (1, at feeder) Old Hickory L, Wilson Co (Richard Watts, GG, photo). **Black-billed Cuckoo**: 1 / 9 May (2 / 1; nocturnal flight calls) Perry Co (RS); 5 May (1) Clarksville (SR, CR); 5 May (1) New Johnsonville, Humphreys Co (AT); 15 May (1) Radnor L (GG). **Common Nighthawk**: 20 Apr (1) Williamson Co (GG), ers. **Eastern Whip-poor-will**: 27 Mar (1) Perry Co (David Kinsinger), ers. **Chimney Swift**: 31 Mar (1) Montgomery Co (SY),

ers. **Ruby-throated Hummingbird**: 30 Mar (1) Davidson Co (Sandy Bivens), ers. **Virginia Rail**: 6 May (1) Hardin Bottoms (RS, VS). **Sora**: 5 May (15) Duck R Unit (RS, VS), max. **Common Gallinule**: 19-24 May (1) Sugar Tree Bottoms, Perry Co (RS, VS, AT). **Sandhill Crane**: 21 Apr (1) Cross Cr NWR (JH), lrs.

Stilt - Tern: **Black-necked Stilt**: 30-31 Mar (1) Duck R Unit (refuge staff / AT). **American Avocet**: 21 Apr (23) Cross Cr NWR (JH); 21 Apr (21) Dunbar Cave SP, Montgomery Co (Mike Graszczynski); 19 May (1) Fowler Rd (DSn). **Black-bellied Plover**: 7 Apr (1) Duck R Unit (AT, VS, RS); 28 Apr (2) Hardin Bottoms (VS). **American Golden-Plover**: 17 Mar (8) Duck R Unit (RS, VS); 25 Mar / 11 May (5 / 1) Fowler Rd (DSn). **Semipalmated Plover**: 15 Apr (4) Duck R Unit (RS, VS), ers. **Upland Sandpiper**: 22-23 Apr (1) Cross Cr NWR (SR, CR, MCT); 23 Apr (1) Perry Co (RS); 28-29 Apr (1) Fowler Rd (DSn). **Marbled Godwit**: 23 Apr (13) Old Hickory L (MS, m.ob., photo). **Stilt Sandpiper**: 24 Mar (3) Duck R Unit (JH), ers; 23 Apr (1) Old Hickory L (MS); 3 May (1) Perry Co (RS, VS); 19 May (3) Clay L, Wilson Co (JN, SZ). **Dunlin**: 25 Mar - 16 Apr (1-6) Duck R Unit (MCT, AT, RS); 29 Mar (2) Old Hickory L (MS). **Baird's Sandpiper**: 23 May (1) Duck R Unit (Daniel Redwine). **White-rumped Sandpiper**: 2-6 May (1-2) Hardin Bottoms (RS, VS); 14 May - 4 Jun (1-4) Clay L, Wilson Co (JN, m.ob.); 18 May (4) Swann Rd, Coffee Co (RSh, DSh, photo); 19 May - 1 Jun (2-24) Duck R Unit (AT, RS, VS); 1 Jun (1) Winchester City Park on Tim's Ford L, Franklin Co (DJS). **Western Sandpiper**: 28 Mar (1) Duck R Unit (AT). **Short-billed Dowitcher**: 23 Apr / 9 May (5 / 30) Cross Cr NWR (SY / SR, CR). **Long-billed Dowitcher**: 17 Mar - 15 Apr / 5 May (2-4 / 5) Duck R Unit (RS, VS, m.ob.); 6 Apr (3) Lobelville Bottoms (VS, RS); 14 Apr / 3 May (1 / 22) Hardin Bottoms (VS); 21-23 Apr (1) Cross Cr NWR (SA, JH, MCT); 6 May (5) Eagleville, Rutherford Co (Hugh Barger). **Spotted Sandpiper**: 25 Mar (1) Duck R Unit (MCT), ers. **Solitary Sandpiper**: 21 Mar (1) Peeler Park, Davidson Co (PDC), ers. **Lesser Yellowlegs**: 10 Mar (1) Perry Co (RS, VS, AT), ers; 13 Apr (400) Duck R Unit (AT), max. **Willet**: 23 Apr (12) Cross Cr NWR (SY); 26 Apr (39) Clay L, Wilson Co (JN); 27 Apr (50) Watertown, Wilson Co (CA); 8 May (5) Old Hickory L (Bob Toleno, Juli Chamberlin). **Greater Yellowlegs**: 28 Mar (300) Duck R Unit (AT), max. **ICELAND GULL**: 23 Apr (1) Old Hickory L (MS, photo). **Lesser Black-backed Gull**: 25 Mar (1) Duck R Unit (RS, VS). **Glaucous Gull**: thru 1 Apr (1 im) Pickwick L (m.ob.). **Caspian Tern**: 24 Mar (1) Pickwick L (RS, VS), ers. **Black Tern**: 10 / 30 May (3 / 1) Old Hickory L (FF / MS, PDC), only reports. **Common Tern**: 14 Apr (1) Tennessee R, Perry Co (RS, VS); 24 Apr (1) Old Hickory L (GG); 5 May (1) Duck R Unit (RS, VS). **Forster's Tern**: 10 May (40) Old Hickory L (FF), max.

Loon - Falcon: **Red-throated Loon**: 17 / 24 Mar (10 / 3) Pickwick L (RS, VS), new high count in state; 27 Mar (1) Old Hickory L (GG, photo). **Pacific Loon**: 17 Mar (1) Pickwick L (RS, VS). **Common Loon**: thru 26 May (3) Edgar Evins SP, DeKalb Co (Mark Taylor); 29 May - 1 Jun (1) Pickwick L (m.ob.), lrs. **Neotropic Cormorant**: 9-23 Apr (1) Cross Cr NWR (SA, photo, m.ob.); 29 Apr (1) Duck R Unit (Daniel Redwine). **American White Pelican**: 6 Mar (72) Percy Priest Field Trial Area, Rutherford Co (SZ); 15 / 23 Mar (5 / 18) Woods Reservoir, Franklin Co (SZ / BSc, MM); 17 Mar (85) Pickwick L (RS, VS); 29 Mar (206) Drake's Cr, Sumner Co (Jerry Webb); 1 Apr (84) Tennessee R, Perry Co (RS); 1 Apr / 5 May

(275 / 26) Duck R Unit (VS / RS); 9 Apr (300) Cross Cr NWR (SA); 5 May (6) Drake's Cr, Sumner Co (MS); 19 May (4) Tennessee R, Perry Co (RS, VS), lrs. **American Bittern**: 3 / 23-28 Apr (1 / 2) Lobelville Bottoms (RS / VS); 7 / 25 Apr (1) Duck R Unit (AT, VS, RS); 12 Apr (1) Hardin Bottoms (RS, VS); 15-17 Apr (1) Boiling Pond, White Co (RSh, DSh); 16-21 Apr (1-2) Shelton Ferry WMA (Dave Magers, m.ob.); 19 Apr (1) University School wetland, Davidson Co (Ed Schneider, GG); 5 May (1) Duck R Unit (RS, VS); 5 May (1) Dyson Ditch Refuge, Cheatham Co (SA, JH). **Least Bittern**: 5 May (1) Duck R Unit (RS, VS); 12-22 May (1-2) Shelton Ferry WMA (JN, m.ob.). **Snowy Egret**: 15 Apr (1) Montgomery Co (SA), ers; 18 May (1) Coffee Co (RSh, DSh). **Little Blue Heron**: 28 Mar (1 ad) Duck R Unit (AT), ers. **Cattle Egret**: 11 Mar (1) Hillsboro Pond, Coffee Co (BD), ers. **Yellow-crowned Night-Heron**: 17 Apr (4) Stewart Co (SR, CR); 13 May (1) Edgar Evins SP, DeKalb Co (Mark Taylor). **Glossy Ibis**: 22 May (2) Duck R Unit (Daniel Redwine, photo). **Mississippi Kite**: 13 May (1) Cross Cr NWR (SA, photo); 19 May (2) Duck R Unit (AT); 19 May (1) Sugar Tree Bottoms, Perry Co (RS, VS); 20 May (2) Lobelville (AT); 20 May (2) Montgomery Co (Stefan Woltmann). **Red-tailed Hawk**: 17 Mar (1, Krider's) Savannah Bottoms (RS, VS, photo). **SWAINSON'S HAWK**: 9 Mar (1 ad) Fort Campbell (DMo, photo). **Rough-legged Hawk**: 17 Mar (1) Savannah Bottoms (RS, VS, photo). **Golden Eagle**: 3 / 28 Apr (1 im) Perry Co (RS); 4 Apr (1 im) Humphreys Co (RS). **Merlin**: 1 / 10 Mar (1) Perry Co (RS, VS, AT); 5 Mar (1) Humphreys Co (RS, VS); 17 Mar (1) Savannah Bottoms (RS, VS); 1 Apr (1) Perry Co (RS); 14 Apr (1) Wayne Co (RS, VS). **Peregrine Falcon**: 4 Apr (1) Duck R Unit (MM); 25 Apr (1) Murfreesboro (CW); 6 May (1) Percy Priest L, Davidson Co (Richard Connors et al.); 11 May (1) Fort Campbell (DMo).

Flycatcher - Wren: **Olive-sided Flycatcher**: 7 May (1) Fort Campbell, Stewart Co (DMo); 19 May (1) Shelby Park and Bottoms (MS, PDC). **Yellow-bellied Flycatcher**: 8 May (1) Perry Co (RS); 9 May (1) Radnor L (MS, PDC, FF, Ken Oeser). **Alder Flycatcher**: 10 May (1) Lobelville Bottoms (VS); 19 May (1) Crooked Branch Park, Davidson Co (MS, PDC); 20 May (1) Shelby Park and Bottoms (MS); 25 May (1) Humphreys Co (AT). **Great Crested Flycatcher**: 14 Apr (1) Perry Co (RS, VS), ers. **Western Kingbird**: 16 May (1) Shelton Ferry WMA (DJS). **Eastern Kingbird**: 29 Mar (1) Old Hickory L (MS), ers. **Scissor-tailed Flycatcher**: 4-24 Apr (2-4) Wartrace, Bedford Co (Melissa Turrentine); 10 Apr / 19 May (2 / 4) Lytle Cr Rd, Rutherford Co (Hugh Barger / Kristy Baker); 12-13 Apr (1-2) Montgomery Co (Tammy Devine, m.ob.);14 Apr (3) Wayne Co (RS, VS); 2-3 May (1-2) Hardin Bottoms (RS, VS); 6 May (1) Murfreesboro (CW, Nolan Walker); 16-31 May (1) Lebanon, Wilson Co (CA, GG). **White-eyed Vireo**: 31 Mar (1) Harpeth R Greenway, Davidson Co (FF) and (1) Duck R Unit (AT), ers. **Bell's Vireo**: 11-29 May (2-4) Fort Campbell (DMo). **Yellow-throated Vireo**: 28 Mar (2) Duck R Unit (AT) and (1) Hickman Co (VS), ties the early arrival date in state. **Philadelphia Vireo**: 19 Apr (1) Radnor L (Kevin Bowden, Mary Zimmerman et al.), ers. **Fish Crow**: 15 Mar (2) Woods Reservoir, Franklin Co (SZ); 28 Mar (1) Duck R Unit (AT); 24 Apr / 2 May (2) Cross Cr NWR (AT / SY); 3 May (1) Hardin Bottoms (RS, VS). **Northern Rough-winged Swallow**: 2 Mar (1) Lobelville (RS, VS) and (1) marsh on Walter S. Davis Blvd, Nashville (FF), ers. **Cliff Swallow**: 15 Apr (1850) Duck R Unit (RS), max. **Barn Swallow**: 5 Mar (1) Duck R Unit (RS, VS), ers. **Red-breasted Nuthatch**: 23 Apr

(1) Humphreys Co (AT), only report. **Marsh Wren**: 5 May (17) Duck R Unit (RS, VS), max.

Gnatcatcher - Oriole: **Blue-gray Gnatcatcher**: 24 Mar (1) Duck R Unit (AT) and (1) Pickwick L (RS, VS), ers. **Gray-cheeked Thrush**: 20 Apr (1) Radnor L (MS), ers. **Wood Thrush**: 10 Apr (1) Perry Co (RS), ers. **Purple Finch**: 11 Mar (26, at feeder) Perry Co (RS), max. **Red Crossbill**: 27 Apr / 21 May (9 / 1) Fort Campbell (DMo); 2 May (2) Fort Campbell, Stewart Co (DMo); see comments in intro. **Pine Siskin**: 1 Apr (50) Perry Co (RS), max; thru 14 Apr (11) Nashville (Chris Sloan); 21-22 May (1) Wilson Co (JN, Robin Nation). **Bachman's Sparrow**: 24 May (2) Fort Campbell, Stewart Co (DMo). **Vesper Sparrow**: 17 Mar (22) Savannah Bottoms (RS, VS), max. **Lark Sparrow**: 14 Apr (1) Fountain Grove, Coffee Co (Susan McWhirter); 23 Apr (1) Liberty Park, Montgomery Co (MCT); 25 Apr (1) Perry Co (AT); 6 May (2) Lytle Cr Rd, Rutherford Co (CW, Nolan Walker); 12 May (1) Nashville Speedway, Wilson Co (SZ et al.); 18 May (4) Rock Rd, Coffee Co (RSh, DSh); 27 May (1) Lincoln Co (DSn). **Henslow's Sparrow**: 24 Apr thru season (max 21) Fort Campbell (DMo); 9 May (2) Bridgestone - Firestone Centennial Wilderness WMA, White Co (MM); 24 May (4) Fort Campbell, Stewart Co (DMo). **LeConte's Sparrow**: 11 Mar (9) Perry Co (RS, VS). **Nelson's Sparrow**: 5 May (2) Duck R Unit (RS, VS). **Lincoln's Sparrow**: 25 Mar (1) Duck R Unit (RS, VS), ers. **Harris's Sparrow**: thru 21 Mar (1) Bell's Bend, Davidson Co (FF, m.ob.). **Yellow-headed Blackbird**: 19 Apr (1 male) Wilson Co (CA, photo). **Bobolink**: 23 Apr / 3 May (32 / 275) Hardin Bottoms (VS, RS), ers / max. **Baltimore Oriole**: 12 Apr (1) Perry Co (RS, VS), ers.

Warbler - Dickcissel: **Worm-eating Warbler**: 4 Apr (1) Hickman Co (MM), ers; 24 May (1) Fort Campbell (DMo). **Louisiana Waterthrush**: 16 Mar (1) Warner Park, Davidson Co (Rachel Anderson), ers. **Blue-winged Warbler**: 6 Apr (1) Perry Co (RS), ers. **Golden-winged Warbler**: 29 Apr (1) Perry Co (RS); 29 Apr (1) Rutherford Co (Kristy Baker); only reports. **"Brewster's" Warbler**: 28 Apr (1) Perry Co *(fide* RS). **Black-and-white Warbler**: 28 Mar (1) Hickman Co (VS), ers. **Prothonotary Warbler**: 28 Mar (1) Duck R Unit (AT), ers. **Swainson's Warbler**: 15 Apr (1) Perry Co (RS, VS); 16-27 Apr (1) Radnor L (Hugh Barger, GG, MS); 5 May (1) Old Hickory Dam (MS). **Tennessee Warbler**: 15 Apr (1) Radnor L (JKS), ers. **Nashville Warbler**: 9 Apr (1) Duck R Unit (SY), ers. **Mourning Warbler**: 3 May (1) Radnor L (JKS); 5 May (1) Nashville (Chris Sloan); 8 May (1) Perry Co (RS); 16 May (1) Dickson Co (SY); 19 May (1) Shelby Park and Bottoms (MS, PDC); 19 May (1) Duck R Unit (AT). **Kentucky Warbler**: 13 Apr (1) Perry Co (RS, VS), ers. **Common Yellowthroat**: 1 Apr (1) Perry Co (RS, VS), ers. **American Redstart**: 14 Apr (1) Perry Co (AT), ers. **Cape May Warbler**: 24 Apr (1) Perry Co (VS). **Cerulean Warbler**: 8 Apr (3) Perry Co (David Kinsinger), ers. **Northern Parula**: 24 Mar (1) Pickwick L (RS, VS), ers. **Blackburnian Warbler**: 17 Apr (1) Barfield Crescent Park, Rutherford Co (CW), ers. **Yellow Warbler**: 1 Apr (1) Lincoln Co (DSn), ers. **Blackpoll Warbler**: 19 Apr (1) Radnor L (Kevin Bowden, Mary Zimmerman et al.), ers. **Black-throated Blue Warbler**: 26 Apr (1) Perry Co (Adam Beachy, m.ob.). **Yellow-throated Warbler**: 24 Mar (1) Pickwick L (RS, VS), ers. **Black-throated Green Warbler**: 22 Mar (1) Maury Co (RS), ers. **Wilson's Warbler**: 21 May (1) Warren Co (Susan McWhirter). **Summer Tanager**: 9 Apr (1) Montgomery Co (SR, CR),

ers. **Rose-breasted Grosbeak**: 1 Apr (1 male) Rutherford Co (Kristy Baker, photo), ers; 1 Jun (1 male) Humphreys Co (AT, photo), very late. **Blue Grosbeak**: 13 Apr (1) Duck R Unit (RS, VS), ers. **Indigo Bunting**: 7 Apr (1) Duck R Unit (AT, VS), ers. **Dickcissel**: 23 Apr (6) Hardin Bottoms (VS), ers; 29 May (22) Fort Campbell (DMo), max.

Locations: Cross Cr NWR - Stewart Co; Duck R Unit - unit of Tennessee NWR, Humphreys Co; Fort Campbell - Montgomery Co (unless specified otherwise); Fowler Rd - Lincoln Co; Hardin Bottoms - Perry Co; Lobelville Bottoms - Perry Co; Old Hickory L - Davidson Co (unless specified otherwise); Pickwick L - Hardin Co; Radnor L - Davidson Co; Savannah Bottoms - Hardin Co; Shelby Park and Bottoms - Davidson Co; Shelton Ferry WMA - Montgomery Co.

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CUMBERLAND PLATEAU / RIDGE and VALLEY REGION - - The very mild temperatures of February continued through mid- March. However, late March and April were considerably cooler than normal. May rebounded with temperatures that were well above normal. In the Tri-cities area April was the seventh coolest on record, while May was the second warmest. Rainfall in March and April was near normal, but May saw twice the normal amount. Northern portions of the region got a light snowfall on 16 April.

A brood of a dozen young Common Mergansers was photographed on the Big South Fork River providing further nesting evidence for a species apparently reclaiming historic breeding range. Notable rarities this season included Eared Grebe, White-winged Dove, Purple Gallinule, Anhinga, White-faced Ibis, and a Harris's Sparrow lingering from winter. Common Gallinules occurred at two sites in Hawkins County, where this species has been observed several times in recent years. Good numbers of Black-billed Cuckoos, Virginia Rails, White-rumped Sandpipers, American Bitterns, and Dickcissels were reported. Fish Crows appeared for the first time in Hamblen and Hawkins counties, filling gaps in their range. Raven sightings in Hamblen, Knox, Campbell, and Morgan counties were noteworthy, as reports continue to increase in the northern Cumberland Plateau and the northwestern Ridge and Valley.

Goose - Gallinule: **Snow Goose**: thru 24 Apr (1) Watts Bar Dam (m.ob.), apparently injured. **Greater White-fronted Goose**: 2 Mar (1) Wal-Mart Distribution Center, Greene Co (Jeffrey Bailey); 18 Mar - 16 Apr (1) John Sevier L (SHu); 21 Mar (1) Boone L, Sullivan Co (RLK). **Lesser Scaup**: 24 Mar (237) Fort Patrick Henry L, Sullivan Co (Bambi Fincher, Sherrie Quillen). **Surf Scoter**: 27 Mar (3) Chickamauga L (TLR); 22 Apr - 3 May (2 males) John Sevier L (SHu, m.ob.). **White-winged Scoter**: thru 15 Mar (1-2) Nickajack L, Marion Co (TLR, m.ob.). **Black Scoter**: 26 Mar (1 male, 2 females) Chickamauga L (KAC). **Common Merganser**: 3-5 Mar (1) John Sevier L (SHu); 17 Mar (2) Beaver Cr, Sullivan Co (Michele Sparks); 2 Apr (pair) Watauga R, Washington Co (RLK); 3 Apr (pair) Laurel Fork of Station Camp Cr, Scott Co (Tom Blount); 6 Apr (1 male) Big South Fork R, Scott Co

(Tom Blount); 17 May (female with 12 yg) Leatherwood Ford, Big South Fork R, Scott Co (Charles Nicholson, photo). **Horned Grebe**: thru 5 May (1) John Sevier L (SHu), lrs. **Eared Grebe**: 14 Mar (1) Cove Lake SP, Campbell Co (NeM). **White-winged Dove**: 17 Apr (1, at feeder) Cumberland Co (Lynn Miller, Jane Miller, photo, *fide* Ed LeGrand). **Black-billed Cuckoo**: 29 Apr / 14 May (1) Seven Islands SP (Melinda Fawver / BSc, MM); 30 Apr / 2 May (1) separate sites in Johnson City (Larry McDaniel / HLF); 5 May (1) Beaver Cr, Sullivan Co (RBB, RMC); 5 / 16 May (1) Morgan Co (RoK); 5 May (1) John Sevier L (SHu); 6 May (1, window kill) UTC campus, Chattanooga (DA); 11 May (1) Black Mtn, Cumberland Co (Ed LeGrand, Harry LeGrand); 13 May (1) Campbell Co (RDH, DMy). **Common Nighthawk**: 13 Apr (1) Knox Co (CJW), ers. **Chuck-will's-widow**: 13 Apr (1) Knox Co (Kelly Roy), ers. **Chimney Swift**: 30 Mar (1) Standifer Gap Marsh (Kent DuBois), ers. **Ruby-throated Hummingbird**: 30 Mar (1) Marion Co (J.N. Howard), ers. **Virginia Rail**: 4 / 10 Mar (1) Bowater Pond, McMinn Co (RHo / MM); 9 Mar - 21 May (1-2) Kingsport, at Meadowview (RRK, JDA, RLK, m.ob.); 22 Mar (1) Gupton Wetland (MM et al.); 5 Apr (1) Alcoa (TH); 6 Apr (1) Standifer Gap Marsh (MM); 4 May (1) Minga Marsh, Sullivan Co (RMC). **Sora**: 10 Mar - 7 May (1-6) Kingsport, at Meadowview (RLK, m.ob.); 12 Apr (7) Alcoa (TH), max. **Common Gallinule**: 9 Apr - 15 May (1-2) John Sevier L (SHu, photo); 8 May (1) Phipps Bend (HLF). **Purple Gallinule**: 28 Apr - 3 May (1) John Sevier L (SHu, photo, m.ob.).

Plover - Tern: **Semipalmated Plover**: 21 Apr (2) Lowland (BSc, MM), ers. **Stilt Sandpiper**: 12 Apr (1) Gupton Wetland (EBo, photo). **Dunlin**: 21 Mar / 24 Apr (2 / 1) South Mouse Cr, Bradley Co (RHo / MM); 4 Apr (1) Polk Co (RHo); 15 Apr (1) Limestone (JDA, m.ob.). **White-rumped Sandpiper**: 5 May (1) Paddle Cr pond (GDE, HLF, RPL, JB); 9-11 May (1-3) Brainerd Levee (BD, m.ob.); 12 May (1) Lowland (BSc, MM); 12 / 23 May (2 / 5) Greenback, Loudon Co (RDH, DMy); 14 May / 4 Jun (2 / 4) Eagle Bend (EBo / Chuck Estes). **Pectoral Sandpiper**: 13 Mar (1) Sequatchie Co (RDH, DMy), ers. **Short-billed Dowitcher**: 24 Apr (1) South Mouse Cr, Bradley Co (MM). **Long-billed Dowitcher**: 1 May (1) Eagle Bend (Bates Estabrooks, photo). **dowitcher sp.**: 27 Mar (1) Hamilton Co (BD). **Solitary Sandpiper**: 21 Mar (1) Paddle Cr pond (RLK), ers. **Willet**: 23 Apr (17) Chickamauga Dam (Dan Jacobson, m.ob.). **Laughing Gull**: 26 May (1) Watts Bar L (RSh, DSh). **Bonaparte's Gull**: 2 Mar (3500) Watts Bar Dam (RDH, DMy), max. **Caspian Tern**: 6 Apr (5) Chickamauga L (BD), ers; 7 Apr (1) Hunter's L, Johnson City (Jerry Nagel). **Forster's Tern**: 26 Mar (1) Chickamauga L (KAC), ers.

Loon - Falcon: **Red-throated Loon**: 26 Mar (1) Chickamauga L (KAC). **Pacific Loon**: 9 Mar (1) Nickajack L, Marion Co (RSh, DSh). **Double-crested Cormorant**: 20 Apr (15 occupied nests, most with yg) South Holston R, Kingsport (RLK). **Anhinga**: 24 May (1, soaring) Moccasin Bend, Hamilton Co (BD), 3rd Co record and 6th in E Tennessee. **American White Pelican**: 15 Mar (1) Fort Loudoun L, Blount Co (Marcia Davis); 29 Mar (21) Tennessee R, Loudon Co (Trent Jett); 30 Mar (30, flying over) Lookout Mtn (BD). **American Bittern**: 4 Apr (1) McMinn Co (TH); 8-11 Apr (1-2) Standifer Gap Marsh (BD, m.ob.); 10 Apr (3) Kyker Bottoms (Randy Winstead, photo); 12 Apr (1) Alcoa (TH); 12 / 21 Apr (1) Heritage Center Greenway (RoK / EBo); 27 Apr (2) Brainerd Levee (BD); 6

May (1) John Sevier L (SHu). **Snowy Egret**: 23 Apr (1) Amnicola Marsh (BD, KAC); 5 May (2) Gupton Wetland (EBo); 12 May (1) Lowland (RDH, DMy); 13 May (1) Johnson City (Jerry Nagel); 14 May (1) Eagle Bend (EBo); 15 May (1) Heritage Center Greenway (EBo). **Little Blue Heron**: 14 Apr (1 ad) Gupton Wetland (Melinda Fawver); 22-27 Apr (1 im) Brainerd Levee (Jerry Ledbetter, m.ob.). **Green Heron**: 22 Mar (1) Gupton Wetland (MM et al.), ers. **Cattle Egret**: 4 Apr (1) Polk Co (RHo), ers. **Black-crowned Night-Heron**: 10 Apr (1) Standifer Gap Marsh (KAC, BD), scarce in SE Tennessee. **Yellow-crowned Night-Heron**: 6 Mar (1 ad) Kingsport, at Meadowview (RLK), new early arrival date in state by 1 day and in NE Tennessee by 10 days; 31 Mar thru season (4 nesting pairs) downtown Kingsport, along Reedy Cr (Pete Range, m.ob.); 5 Apr (1) Knox Co (Billie Cantwell); 10 Apr (1) Standifer Gap Marsh (KAC, BD); 15 Apr thru season (1-2) Maryville, Blount Co (Evan Kidd). **White-faced Ibis**: 5 May (1) UT Plant Sciences Farm, Knox Co (TH et al.); 5 / 11 May (1) Brainerd Levee (Augustus Mealor, Walter Hoyt, m.ob. / BD). **Osprey**: 2 Mar (2) John Sevier L (SHu), ers away from wintering areas; early Apr (pair nest-building on light tower) Bristol, Sullivan Co (Jeremy Stout), 2nd breeding site in Co. **Short-eared Owl**: 4 Mar (1) Loudon Co (MM, BSc), apparently had been present for a few weeks. **Merlin**: 1 Mar (1) Camp Jordan, Hamilton Co (BD); 22 Apr (1) Sharp's Ridge (CJW); 26 Apr (1) Lookout Mt (BD). **Peregrine Falcon**: 16 Mar (1) Limestone (RLK); 20 Mar (1) Paddle Cr pond (RRK, JDA); 16 Apr (1 ad) Gupton Wetland (Evan Buck, Cody Allen).

Flycatcher - Wren: **Olive-sided Flycatcher**: 13 May (1) Craven's House (Dan Jacobson, KAC, m.ob.). **Eastern Wood-Pewee**: 19 Apr (1) Greenway Farm (DA), ers. **Scissor-tailed Flycatcher**: 4 May (8 at 4 sites) Bledsoe Co (RSh, DSh). **White-eyed Vireo**: 30 Mar (1) Roane Co (RoK), ers. **Yellow-throated Vireo**: 1 Apr (1) Lookout Mtn (BD), ers. **Blue-headed Vireo**: 2 Mar (1) McMinn Co (MM et al.), ers. **Philadelphia Vireo**: 24 Apr (1) Craven's House (KAC); 14 May (1) Lookout Mtn (BD); scarce in E Tennessee in spring. **Red-eyed Vireo**: 10 Apr (1) Greenway Farm (DA), ers. **Fish Crow**: thru season (2+) Johnson City (RLK, m.ob.); 30 Mar (1) Douglas Dam, Sevier Co (Michael Robertson); 17-18 Apr (1) Morristown, Hamblen Co (Kirk Huffstater), first Co record; 30 Apr (1) John Sevier L (SHu, Jeffrey Bailey), first Co record. **Common Raven**: 16 Mar (1) Hamblen Co (MM); 18 Mar / 5 Apr (1) Kingsport (Sherrie Quillen, Bambi Fincher / Bill Grigsby); 19 Mar (1) Seymour, Sevier Co (MA); 1 Apr (1) Royal Blue WMA, Campbell Co (NeM); 8 Apr / 10 May (1 / 2) Phipps Bend (SHu / Gary Bailey); 18 Apr (3 yg in nest) Bristol Motor Speedway, Sullivan Co (Michele Sparks); 19 Apr (1) Jonesborough, Washington Co (Jonathan Lugo, David Lugo); 22 Apr (2) Johnson City (Fred Alsop, Kevin Brooks); 24 Apr (2) Boone L, Sullivan Co (RLK); 5 May (1) Seven Islands SP (KW et al.); 8 May (1) Frozen Head SP, Morgan Co (MM); 21 May (1) Pinnacles shopping center, Bristol (TSM), near possible nest site in quarry; 27 May (1) Kyles Ford WMA, Hawkins Co (SHu). **Horned Lark**: 13 May (3) Limestone (RLK). **Purple Martin**: 1 Mar (2) Vulcan Pond, Hamilton Co (BD), ers. **Northern Rough-winged Swallow**: 4 Mar (2) Amnicola Marsh (BD), ers. **Bank Swallow**: 4 Apr (2) John Sevier L (SHu), ers. **Cliff Swallow**: 1 Mar (2) Vulcan Pond, Hamilton Co (BD), new early arrival date in the state. **Barn Swallow**: 10 Mar (1) Amnicola Marsh (BD), ers. **Red-breasted Nuthatch**: 31 Mar (1) Sharp's Ridge (CDS); 5 Apr (1) Sequatchie Co (RSh,

DSh). **Brown-headed Nuthatch**: 14 May (2) Coalfield, Morgan Co (RoK). **Marsh Wren**: 5 Apr (1) Alcoa (TH); 8 May (1) Standifer Gap Marsh (BD); 16 May (1) UT campus, Knox Co (CJW).

Gnatcatcher - Oriole: **Blue-gray Gnatcatcher**: 26 Mar (1) Lookout Mtn (BD), ers. **Swainson's Thrush**: 19 Apr (1) Sharp's Ridge (SW), ers. **Wood Thrush**: 5 Apr (1) Marion Co (J.N. Howard), ers. **Pine Siskin**: 13 Mar / 14 Apr (110 / 74, at feeder) Marion Co (TLR), max; 11 May (1) Van Buren Co (RSh, DSh), lrs. **Lark Sparrow**: 27 Apr (1) Grundy Co (RSh, DSh). **Vesper Sparrow**: 21 Mar (2) Grundy Co (MM), ers. **Grasshopper Sparrow**: 2 Apr (1) Hamilton Co (BD), ers. **Lincoln's Sparrow**: 9 Apr (1) Seven Islands SP (TH); 6 May (1) Kyker Bottoms (TH); 8 May (1, banded) Greenway Farm (DA); 11 May (1) Heritage Center Greenway (RoK); seldon seen in E Tennessee during spring. **Harris's Sparrow**: 30 Mar - 24 Apr (1) Seven Islands SP (EBo, photo, m.ob.), certainly the same bird seen there in Dec and Jan. **Yellow-breasted Chat**: 18 Apr (1) Anderson Co (Trent Jett), ers. **Bobolink**: 15 Apr (2) Hamilton Co (BD), ers. **Orchard Oriole**: 16 Apr (1) Amnicola Marsh (BD), ers.

Warbler - Dickcissel: **Ovenbird**: 9 Apr (1) Seven Islands SP (TH), ers. **Worm-eating Warbler**: 13 Apr (1) Lokout Mtn (BD), ers. **Louisiana Waterthrush**: 19 Mar (2) Seymour, Sevier Co (MA), ers. **Northern Waterthrush**: 19 Apr (1) Amnicola Marsh (BD), ers. **Blue-winged Warbler**: 13 Apr (1) Sharp's Ridge (MM), ers. **Golden-winged Warbler**: 20-21 Apr (1) Sharp's Ridge (BSc, m.ob.); 28 Apr (1) Campbell Co (Bates Estabrooks); 29 Apr (1) Craven's House (KAC); 30 May (2) Scott Co (Melinda Welton); 31 May (1) Cumberland Co (RSh, DSh); only reports. **"Brewster's" Warbler**: 28 May (1) Van Buren Co (RDH, DMy, photo). **Black-and-white Warbler**: 26 Mar (1) Lookout Mtn (BD), ers. **Prothonotary Warbler**: 12 Apr (1) Heritage Center Greenway (RoK), ers; 18 / 28 Apr (1) separate sites in Kingsport (Rack Cross / Pete Range); 21 Apr (1) Johnson City (Jerry Nagel); few records in Sullivan and Washington Cos in recent years; 8 May (8) Phipps Bend (HLF), good number there. **Swainson's Warbler**: 22 Apr (1) Chattanooga Nature Center, Hamilton Co (KAC, m.ob.). **Nashville Warbler**: 13 Apr (1) Sharp's Ridge (MM), ers. **Mourning Warbler**: 8 May (1) Lookout Mtn (KAC et al.); 13 May (1, banded) Seven Islands SP (MA, photo). **Common Yellowthroat**: 31 Mar (1) Kyker Bottoms (Evan Buck), ers. **Hooded Warbler**: 2 Apr (1) Lookout Mtn (BD), ers; 4 May (1, window kill) UTC campus, Chattanooga (DA), had been banded in Belize in 2016. **American Redstart**: 14 Apr (1) Sharp's Ridge (CDS), ers. **Cape May Warbler**: 14 Apr (1) Lookout Mtn (BD), ers. **Cerulean Warbler**: 15 Apr (1) Sharp's Ridge (SW), ers; 18 Apr (2) Hamblen Co (Kirk Huffstater); no reports in Tri-cities area. **Bay-breasted Warbler**: 22 Apr (1) Sharp's Ridge (EBo), ers. **Yellow Warbler**: 13 Apr (1) Gupton Wetland ((RoK), ers. **Blackpoll Warbler**: 19 Apr (1) Sharp's Ridge (MM et al.), ers. **Black-throated Blue Warbler**: 2 May (1) Knox Co (CDS); 4 May (1) Lookout Mtn (BD). **Yellow-throated Warbler**: 25 Mar (1) Royal Blue WMA, Campbell Co (NeM), ers. **Prairie Warbler**: 8 Apr (1) Morgan Co (RoK), ers. **Black-throated Green Warbler**: 24 Mar (1) Chattanooga (DA), ers. **Canada Warbler**: 18 Apr (1) Lookout Mtn (BD), ers. **Summer Tanager**: 5 Apr (1) Hamilton Co (Pixie Lanham, Gary Lanham), ers. **Scarlet Tanager**: 3 Apr (1) Sharp's Ridge (SW), ers. **Blue Grosbeak**: 14 Apr (1) Gupton Wetland (RoK),

ers. **Dickcissel**: 27 Apr (2) Polk Co (RHo), ers; 4 May (8) Bledsoe Co (RSh, DSh), max; a particularly good showing in the southern portion of the region with reports from 10 counties (i.e., Bledsoe, Bradley, Grundy, Loudon, Meigs, Monroe, Polk, Rhea, Sequatchie, and Van Buren Cos); elsewhere in region: 5 May thru season (3-4 at 2 sites) Washington Co (RLK, m.ob.); 10 / 13 May (1) Chuckey, Greene Co (Kay Street / RLK); 20 May (1) Hawkins Co (SHu).

Locations: Alcoa - Blount Co; Amnicola Marsh - Hamilton Co; Brainerd Levee - Hamilton Co; Chickamauga L - Hamilton Co; Craven's House - unit of Chickamauga and Chattanooga National Military Park, Hamilton Co; Eagle Bend - fish hatchery in Anderson Co; Greenway Farm - Hamilton Co; Gupton Wetland - Roane Co; Heritage Center Greenway - Roane Co; John Sevier L - Hawkins Co; Kingsport - Sullivan Co; Kyker Bottoms - Blount Co; Limestone - Washington Co; Lowland - Hamblen Co; Lookout Mtn - Hamilton Co; Paddle Cr pond - Sullivan Co; Phipps Bend - Hawkins Co; Seven Islands SP - Knox Co; Sharp's Ridge - Knox Co; Standifer Gap Marsh - Hamilton Co; Watts Bar L - Meigs / Rhea Cos.

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EASTERN MOUNTAIN REGION - - March and April were cooler than normal, while precipitation was near normal for both months. May saw abnormal weather, with temperatures 5.5° hotter than normal and rainfall more than 4 inches above average.

Common Mergansers continued to nest on the Little River with two pairs that hatched broods this year in Blount and Sevier counties. A White-faced Ibis in Elizabethton was a good find.

Duck - Sora: **Greater Scaup**: thru 5 May (1) Wilbur L (BP, JP), lrs. **Common Merganser**: thru season (1-8 ad) Little R, Blount / Sevier Cos (KW, Warren Bielenberg, m.ob.); 30 Apr - 14 May (female, 10 yg) Little R, near Walland, Blount Co (Randy Winstead, photo); 24 May (female, 9 yg) Little R, at Metcalf Bottoms, GSMNP, Sevier Co (KW, photo); two separate broods due to age difference in the young and distance apart (17 river miles). **Red-breasted Merganser**: 8 Apr (17) South Holston L (RBB, RMC). **Horned Grebe**: 16 May (2) South Holston L (RLK), lrs. **Eared Grebe**: thru 16 Apr (1-2) South Holston L (RLK, RMC, m.ob.). **Eurasian Collared-Dove**: 1 Mar (1) Erwin, Unicoi Co (Fred Alsop, Kevin Brooks), first for Co. **Black-billed Cuckoo**: 29 Apr (1) Hampton Cr Cove, Carter Co (RRK et al.); 5 May (1) Shady Valley and (1) Rooty Branch, Sullivan Co (GDE, HLF, RPL, JB). **Eastern Whip-poor-will**: 29 Mar (2) Wilbur L (BP, JP), ers. **Virginia Rail**: 26 May (1) Chota Refuge, Monroe Co (Sean Peterson). **Sora**: 8 May (1) Shady Valley (RLK).

Plover - Falcon: **Semipalmated Plover**: 16 Apr (1) South Holston L (RLK), new early arrival date in NE Tennessee **Dunlin**: 16 May (11) South Holston L (RLK). **White-rumped Sandpiper**: 16 May (3) South Holston L (RLK). **Semipalmated Sandpiper**: 16 May (15) South Holston L (RLK), max. **American Woodcock**: 21 Apr / 3 May (1) Carver's Gap on

Roan Mtn (BSc, MM / David Kirschke). **Laughing Gull**: 11 / 15 May (2 / 1) South Holston L (RLK / RRK, JDA). **Herring Gull**: 27 Apr (1) South Holston L (RLK), lrs. **Caspian Tern**: 16 / 27 Apr (2) South Holston L (RLK). **Common Tern**: 27 Apr / 29 May (1) South Holston L (RLK / RRK, JDA). **Great Egret**: 30 Mar (3) Watauga L, Carter Co (BP), ers; 5 May (1) Butler, Johnson Co (TSM, Cathy McNeil), lrs. **Cattle Egret**: 16 Apr (1) Siam, Carter Co (BP, JP). **Yellow-crowned Night-Heron**: 22 Apr thru season (pair, nest) Elizabethton (m.ob.). **White-faced Ibis**: 19 Apr (1) Elizabethton (TSM, RLK, m.ob.), red eye distinctive, 2nd record in NE Tennessee **Broad-winged Hawk**: 31 Mar (1) GSMNP (CJW), ers. **Golden Eagle**: 5 Mar (1) Unaka Mtn, Unicoi Co (Joe McGuiness). **Short-eared Owl**: 25 Mar (1) Cades Cove, GSMNP (Reva Dow), lrs of wintering birds. **Northern Saw-whet Owl**: 21 Apr / 4 May (1) Carver's Gap on Roan Mtn (BSc, MM / GG). **Peregrine Falcon**: 25 Mar (1) South Holston L (RBB, RMC); 14 Apr / 15 May (1) Alum Cave Bluff, GSMNP (CA / KW); thru season (2) Doe R Gorge, Carter Co (Pete Range, RLK).

Flycatcher - Blackbird: **Olive-sided Flycatcher**: 4 May (1) Rich Mtn Rd, Unicoi Co (RLK). **Acadian Flycatcher**: 21 Apr (1) Sugarlands, GSMNP (KW), ers. **Alder Flycatcher**: 15 May (1) Roan Mtn (RLK), ers. **Least Flycatcher**: 13 May (8) Holston Mtn, Carter / Sullivan Cos (RBB, RMC), max. **Loggerhead Shrike**: 27 Mar (1) Holston Valley, Sullivan Co (RRK, JDA), only report. **Yellow-throated Vireo**: 14 Apr (1) South Holston L (RBB, RMC), ers. **Blue-headed Vireo**: 11 Mar (1) Pittman Center, Sevier Co (Joshua Uffman), ers. **Philadelphia Vireo**: 25 May (1) Cades Cove, GSMNP (KW), late and rare in spring. **Common Raven**: 5 / 24 Mar (2 / 1) Hiwassee R, Polk Co (RHo / TLR). **Sedge Wren**: 27 Apr (1) Cades Cove, GSMNP (Randy Winstead). **Marsh Wren**: 8 May (2) Shady Valley (RLK). **Blue-gray Gnatcatcher**: 31 Mar (1) Elizabethton (Debi Campbell), ers. **Hermit Thrush**: 12 May (pair) Derrick Knob, GSMNP (RS, VS, AT). **Purple Finch**: 24 Mar (1) Wilbur L (BP, JP), lrs. **Red Crossbill**: 12 May (1) Newfound Gap, GSMNP (KW et al.); **Pine Siskin**: 2 Mar (140) Shell Cr, Carter Co (Judi Sawyer), max; 15 Apr (30) Pittman Center, Sevier Co (KW); 28 Apr thru season (10-25) Roan Mtn (RLK, m.ob.); 12 May (30) Newfound Gap, GSMNP (KW et al.). **Vesper Sparrow**: 15 May (1) Round Bald on Roan Mtn (RLK), ers at breeding site. **Swamp Sparrow**: 8 May (2) Shady Valley (RLK), lrs. **Brewer's Blackbird**: 7-11 Mar (2, male and female) Cades Cove, GSMNP (Warren Bielenberg, m.ob.).

Warblers: **Golden-winged Warbler**: 28 Apr (1) Hampton Cr Cove, Carter Co (Debi Campbell, RLK, m.ob.), ers. **Prothonotary Warbler**: 14 Apr (1) Rooty Branch, Sullivan Co (RBB, RMC); 15 Apr (1) Sugarlands, GSMNP (CA); 22 Apr (1) South Holston R weir, Sullivan Co (RLK). **Swainson's Warbler**: 21 / 27 Apr (1 / 5) Schoolhouse Gap trail, GSMNP (CA, photo / TH), ers / max; 23 May (1) Fish Dam Cr, Holston Mtn, Sullivan Co (RMC), few recent records in Co. **Hooded Warbler**: 3 Apr (1) Polk Co (RSh, DSh), ers. **Cerulean Warbler**: 27 Apr (1) Sugarlands, GSMNP (KW); 12 May (1) Cades Cove, GSMNP (Susan Hoyle); 12 May (1) Holston Mtn, Carter Co (RBB, RMC), very few recent records in NE Tennessee **Blackburnian Warbler**: 17 Apr (1) Tremont Institute, GSMNP (Tiffany Beachy), ers. **Black-throated Blue Warbler**: 14 Apr (2) Alum Cave Bluff, GSMNP (CA), ers. **Prairie Warbler**: 3 Apr (1) Polk Co (RSh, DSh), ers. **Yellow-throated Warbler**: 31 Mar (2) Cades

Cove, GSMNP (Warren Bielenberg), ers. **Black-throated Green Warbler**: 24 Mar (2) Polk Co (TLR), ers.

Locations: Elizabethton - Carter Co; GSMNP - Great Smoky Mountains National Park; Roan Mtn - Carter Co; Shady Valley - Johnson Co; South Holston L - Sullivan Co; Wilbur L - Carter Co.

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The Migrant records observations and studies of birds in Tennessee and adjacent areas.

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